

APPLICANT(S): Yair Shachar
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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant asserts that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-50 and 53-60 have been rejected. Claims 1 – 31 and 51 – 61 have been canceled. Claims 32 and 45 have been voluntarily amended to harmonize the claims with those of a corresponding European applications.

No new subject matter was added via the amendments. The amendments and cancellations were not made in response to any cited prior art, but rather are intended to harmonized the present claims with those of a corresponding foreign application and to expedite the prosecution of the present application. The Applicant reserves the right to file continuation applications with claims of similar or greater scope as those originally filed with the present application.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 7-9, 11-16, 18-19, 21, 24-30, 53-55, 57-60 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Cruickshank (US PAT: 6,704,294 filed 10/13/99) in view of Thomson et al. (US 2001/0056466A1, filed 12/19/00).

In addition, the Examiner rejected claims 32-36, 37-41, 42-44 and 45-50 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Thomson et al. (US 2001/0056466A1, filed 12/19/00) in view of Fostick (US PAT: 6,856,809, filed 5/17/01).

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Furthermore, the Examiner rejected claims 5 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Cruickshank (US PAT: 6,704,294 filed 10/13/99) in view of Thomson et al. (US 2001/0056466A1, filed 12/19/00) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Sullivan (US PAT: 5,351,296).

In addition, the Examiner rejected claims 6, 23, 31 and 56 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Cruickshank (US PAT: 6,704,294 filed 10/13/99) in view of Thomson et al. (US 2001/0056466A1, filed 12/19/00) as applied to claims 1, 25 and 53 above, and further in view of Fostick.

Yet furthermore, the Examiner rejected claims 10 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Cruickshank (US PAT: 6,704,294 filed 10/13/99) in view of Thomson et al. (US 2001/0056466A1, filed 12/19/00) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kerr (US PAT: 5,844,600).

Finally, the Examiner rejected claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Cruickshank (US PAT: 6,704,294 filed 10/13/99) in view of Thomson et al. (US 2001/0056466A1, filed 12/19/00) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Hinderks (US PAT: 6,700,958, filed 7/3/01).

Applicant maintains his arguments from the previous communication regarding the appropriateness and the Examiner's prior art combinations and with respect to the relevance of cited prior art's teachings. However, in order to harmonize the claims of the present application with those of a corresponding application in the EPO, Applicant has amended the pending claims and canceled certain claims, retaining his rights to prosecute the canceled claims in a continuation application.

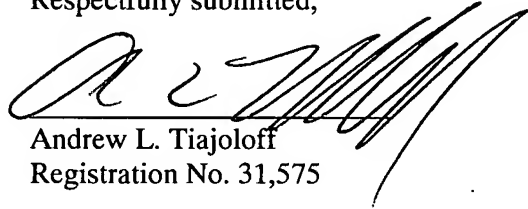
In view of the foregoing cancellations, amendments and remarks, the Examiner's rejections are moot and the pending claims are considered to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the

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prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. L. Tiajolloff', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Andrew L. Tiajolloff
Registration No. 31,575

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